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Docket No.: 1872/0J700US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Nobuhiro Funasako, et al.

Application No.: 09/945,255

Filed: August 31, 2001

For: TUFTED CARPENT AND BACKING

FABRIC

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Cheryl JUSKA

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

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Date: August 6, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 1872/0J700-US0

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Number of Pages Being Transmitted (including cover): 5

Pursuant to our telephone conversation, enclosed is a First Preliminary Amendment correcting the typographical error in claim 8.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Serial No.: 09/945,255

Filed: August 31, 2001

I hereby certify that these papers are being facsimile transferred to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Louis J. DelJuidice

Name

Date: August 6, 2003

Signature Reg. No. 47,522